Amateur Computer Scroup of New Jersey NEWS

Volume 37, Number 07 July 2012

ACGNJ Announcements

ACGNJ HAS SUMMER ACTIVITIES!

While many of our meetings shut down for the summer, others *don't*. Some of our Special Interest Groups have meetings scheduled. When you're not "catching some rays" or "riding the wild surf", maybe you might consider attending a few of them. Have you been curious about one or more of the SIGs to the right, but just haven't found the time to "drop in"? This could be the opportunity you've been looking for. Then, there's our annual Planning Meeting on Friday, August 17th. In many ways, this can be considered our most important public meeting of the year. You want to affect the direction the club is taking? That's where it happens.

Have a great summer, full of fun, adventure and relaxation; and computer stuff *too*!

REMEMBER THESE DATES:

July 11, 2012 is the 18th anniversary of the death of Dr. Gary Arlen Kildall. He was the *real* "Father of the Personal Computer Revolution", the true progenitor of all things now credited to another. (See *Lest We Forget* in the Sept. 2007 ACGNJ News).

July 27, 2012 is the 13th Annual System
Administrator Appreciation Day. Send your
Sysadmin a bouquet of flowers and maybe some
candy. (Unless you *want* your network connection to
go down at the worst possible moment). For further
details, go to:

http://www.sysadminday.com

ACGNJ Meetings

A summer schedule is even shakier than usual. For the latest ACGNJ meeting news, please check the ACGNJ Website (www.acgnj.org) before you leave.

Lunics (Linux/UNIX): Monday, July 2, 8:00 PM Monday, August 6, 8:00 PM

Andreas Meyer (lunics (at) acgnj.org)

Board of Directors Meeting: Tues, July 3, 7:00 PM

Evan Williams (president (at) acgnj.org)

Mobile Devices: (No meeting in July)

Wednesday, August 8, 7:30 PM

Brenda Bell (mobdevsig (at) acgnj.org)

Java: Tuesday, July 10, 7:30 PM (No meeting in August)

Mike Redlich (mike (at) redlich.net)

Investing: Thursday, July 12, 8:00 PM Thursday, August 9, 8:00 PM

Jim Cooper (jim (at) thecoopers.org).

NJ Gamers: Friday, July 13, **6**:00 PM

Friday, August 10, 6:00 PM

Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic (at) gmail.com)

Planning Meeting: Friday, August 17, 7:00 PM

The following *do not* hold meetings in the summer: C/C++, Firefox, Hardware, Layman's Forum, Main Meeting, WebDev, Window Pains.

All meetings, unless otherwise noted, are at the Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave, Scotch Plains, New Jersey. Directions and map on back page.



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ACGNJ News

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Submissions: Articles, reviews, cartoons, illustrations. Most common formats are acceptable. Graphics embedded in the document must also be sent as separate files. E-mail submissions to newsletter@acgnj.org preferred. **Always confirm**. Date review and include name of word processor used, your name, address and phone and name, address and phone of manufacturer, if available.

Tips for reviewers: Why does anyone need it? Why did you like it or hate it? Ease (or difficulty) of installation, learning and use. Would you pay for it?

Advertising: Non-commercial announcements from members are free. Commercial ads 15 cents per word, \$5 minimum. Camera ready display ads: Full page (7 x 10 inches) \$150, two-thirds page (4.5 x 10) \$115, halfpage \$85, one-third \$57, quarter \$50, eighth \$30. Discount 10% on 3 or more consecutive insertions. Enclose payment.

Publication Exchange: Other computer user groups are invited to send a subscription to ACGNJ at the address below. We will respond in kind.

Address Changes should be e-mailed to *membership@acgnj.org* or sent to ACGNJ at the address below.

Membership: Regular (now includes *all* family members who reside at the same address): 1 year \$25, 2 years \$40, 3 years \$55. Student: 1 year \$20. Senior Citizen (over 65): 1 year \$20, 3 years \$45. Send name, address and payment to ACGNJ, PO Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076.

Typographic Note: This ACGNJ News was produced using Scribus 1.3.3.13. Font families used are Times New Roman (TT) for body text, Arial (TT) for headlines.

E-Mail Addresses

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A Skeleton In My Closet

(Part 2 of 2) Bob Hawes, ACGNJ

Last month, in Part 1, I began listing the auxiliary files that I was copying into my new "Startup" subdirectory. (APRJUN12\Starters, the "Closet" in our title). It's the new home for Skel1204.sla. (A Scribus work file that's mostly empty, except for some recurring elements on page 1 and our five "boilerplate" pages, containing information that hardly ever changes from issue to issue. In other words, it's a "Skeleton"). Part 1 also described some problems that I ran into as I was copying those files. I finished up by mentioning a bug in Scribus, involving thirteen of the "little computer pictures" that Barbara (our Editor Emeritus) always used as "end" markers for articles and other pieces of information. (It's actually a standard colon (:) as depicted by the Wingdings font set). I liked this practice, and wanted to continue it; but Scribus had other ideas. Its Story Editor does list Wingdings as one of its available fonts (because I myself personally added that font set to my Linux system);

but it just flat out *doesn't* handle them correctly. If I try to import text containing this Wingdings font into my Scribus work file, I get a "Glyphs missing" error message. (So at least Scribus knows that something has gone wrong, even if it can't do anything about it). I could give you *a lot* more details about this problem; but for the purposes of this article, some illustrations should work better. Figure 1 is made up

This is the end.:

Source ODT file. (All in Times New Roman font).

of three screen shots and three comment lines (in

his is the end.

Source ODT file. (Last character in Wingdings font).

This is the end.

PDF file made directly from source ODT file.

Figure 1

(Continued Above Right)

blue), and it's pretty much self-explanatory. (Note: ODT is Open Document Text). The top screen shot (Continued Below Left)

shows that I did, in fact, type the end of the sentence as <period> <space> <colon> before I switched the colon's font from Times New Roman to Wingdings. The other shots show what happens if you stick to LibreOffice or OpenOffice.org: Your PDF file gets the *correct* output. Figure 2 shows what happens if you try to use this "Wingding" in Scribus. Kaboom!!! (Currently, for reasons that I won't go into right now, I've been avoiding the new version of Scribus; but for this article, I made an exception and tried to import my source ODT file into it. The results I got were *not* exactly the same as in Figure

My work-around for this picture problem is in some ways equal to and in some ways opposite from the "wacky kludge" for my link problems; but it's a lot simpler. As I described in part 1, to install my kludge on pages 15 and 16, I overlaid big image frames with

2, but they were very similar; and they were equally

!!!WRONG!!! Oh well, maybe they'll get it right in

their *next* upgrade).

This is the end.

Source ODT file imported into Scribus work file.

This is the end. \square

PDF file exported from Scribus work file.

Figure 2

small text frames. For this fix, I overlaid big text frames with small image frames. I just "took a picture" of one of those little computers, and used the GIMP (GNU Image Manipulation Program) to trim it to size. Then, when I wanted to put one of those computers somewhere, I'd create a small image frame (0.12 inch high by 0.12 inch wide), place it on top of my text frame (exactly where I wanted my picture to go), and import that image into it. So now, because I'd broken all of the connections to the original source image when I copied my "Skeleton" work file into its new "Closet", I had some fixing to do. First, I copied that file (TINY PC2.gif) into APRJUN12\Starters. Then, I

used the Get Image function in Scribus to re-connect that image to each of the thirteen still existing (but now empty) image frames on pages 13 and 14 of Skel1204.sla. (Figure 3 illustrates this process).

Incidentally, my solutions to my picture and link problems were developed at about the same time, in June of 2011. In previous years, my two "summer issues" had been more or less self-indulgences; but that June, when I began working on my July 2011 newsletter, I already knew that I'd be taking over as full-time Editor in January of 2012. So now, they were *practice*; and the stakes were much higher. If I hadn't been able to work around these two problems, I might have been forced to create my newsletters using the club's fourteen year old copy of Ventura Publisher, running on a specially created Windows 2000 system. (Because 2000 is less bloated than XP, and more stable than 98SE). Actually, I do plan to make such a setup someday; but out of curiosity, not necessity.

Anyway, let's get back on target: In addition to those thirteen "little computer pictures" mentioned above,

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had just applied my kludges as usual when I first set up these pages, and later *both* versions of the same link had tried to work at exactly the same time, who knows what sort of binary disaster might happen? Maybe nothing, or maybe the computer would just hang up; but can we *completely* rule out the possibility of smoke and flames? Well, yes (probably); but why take chances with catastrophe? So I've always *disabled* any existing web links before importing my text into Scribus.

When working in LibreOffice or OpenOffice.org, it's very hard *not* to activate a link after you've typed it in. I find that it's best to assume that any link I type *has* been activated. It's relatively easy to disable them. (Just right-click on each one, and choose "Remove Hyperlink" from the menu that pops up). However, there's a catch: You can't turn something off if you *don't* know that it's on. Fortunately, there's a reliable indicator; but it's not as easy to see as you might think. Now, as you can tell by looking at pages 15 and 16, Barbara identified her links by printing them in *red italics*. This is one of the few areas where I disagree with her. I believe that the color red

This is the end. \times



This is the end.



Image frame after "little computer picture" added.

This is the end.

New PDF file exported from Scribus work file.

Figure 3

and the replacement CD image on page 14 (mentioned last issue) which we *will* get to soon, I promise, pages 13 and 14 also contained nine "wacky kludges". In this case, they are all links that originated in source text files. On pages 15 and 16, except for said kludges, there would be absolutely, positively, and most definitely *NO* way to get any of the graphical links printed on those pages to work. Here, though, are nine links that would seem to be activated, and *should* work; but they usually *don't*. Take note of that "usually", though. Sometimes these links *do* work, and now *that's* a problem. If I

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should be reserved for particular emphasis (such as warnings and emergencies). So I now print my links in *blue italics*, even though LibreOffice and Open-Office.org display their activated links in <u>blue underline</u>. (The shade of blue *IS* different; but that's really quite difficult to spot. In fact, under real world conditions, it's hard enough just to notice that all-important tell-tale underlining in an accidentally activated link).

Actually, because my "wacky kludges" on pages 13 and 14 are small text frames overlaying larger text frames (rather than larger image frames as on pages 15 and 16), they *hadn't* been adversely affected by the "copy and move" process described in part 1. So I *didn't* have to do anything to "fix" them now. That left the CD image on page 14. I took one of our new CDs, put it in my flatbed scanner, and made a *new* official image from it. Using the GIMP, I cropped that image to the proper size, and named it NL_CD_12.png. Then I copied that image to the APRJUN12\Starters subdirectory, and connected it to the already existing image frame from last year's CD advertisement. I also updated the existing text,

changing "36th Anniversary" to "37th Anniversary", and "Beta .11 Release" to "Beta .12 Release". That took care of pages 13 and 14.

Our one remaining "boilerplate" page is page 2, which contains six major text frames. Being text frames, their content has already been imported into the skeleton and saved there. So technically, we don't need to keep their corresponding source files. However, because each one is fairly intricately formatted, it's much faster and easier to preserve those source files, edit them whenever necessary, and then re-import them into our Scribus work file. Thus, I copied those six files into the Starters subdirectory, too. (Four of them were last updated in January of 2012, the others in July of 2011). There's another file that I use every month. It's name is Measure1.sla, and it's the special Scribus work file that I use to estimate how many pages each newsletter article will take up. So I added a copy of it to Starters, also.

In the future, I'm sure I'll be adding even more files in the Starters subdirectory; but right now, that made

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messages first. Most times, I *don't* use them. I only add them when I feel that they're *absolutely* necessary. For instance, if there might be some uncertainty about whether or not the article has really ended. In our March 2012 newsletter, I only put them on pages 3, 4, 9 and 11. Captions for the "black bars" are also quite uncomplicated. Each caption repeats the title of the article that it's particular "black bar" is in the middle of (in 12 point Arial Bold *white* typeface), followed by the word "continued" (in 10 point Arial Bold Italic white typeface). Simple, huh?

That just leaves a question that's been asked about my new layout for page 1: "Why have I put our list of meetings on the front page?". Up through February of 2002, when we were still mailing out printed newsletters to our members, those issues actually had *two* covers: a front one and a back one. Page 1 was the front cover, and page 16, containing the postal information (name, address, etc.) and that list of meetings was on the back cover. So, when they received their copies in the mail, it *was* possible for our members to see the schedule right away.

sixteen: eight images, six text files, my "size measuring" work file and my "skeleton" work file. Finally, I recopied those sixteen files into APRJUN12 itself; and then changed the name of the new copy of Skel1204.sla to 2012Apr1.sla, so it was ready for use as my April work file. From now on, any changes to the "boilerplate" pages will be made in the Starters subdirectory *first*, and then recopied into the working directory. In three months, when I create JULSEP12 as my even newer working directory, I'll copy the *complete* Starters subdirectory there, too; and thus I'll be starting this whole process all over again.

OK. That takes care of my "skeleton" (Skel1204.sla) and my "closet" (the Starters subdirectory). That makes us pretty much done. However, in part 1 (in our June 2012 issue), I mentioned two other leftovers from Publish and Perish (itself in our April 2012 newsletter): "Continued On Next Page" messages and captions for the "black bars". Having brought them up, I really should explain them before we finish. I'll take "Continued On Next Page"

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After we had switched to PDF only distribution, that same schedule became the absolutely *last* thing to be seen. Basically, I wanted it to be one of the first things seen once more. Well, I guess that covers everything. See you next month.

Appendix I: Cartoon Craziness (Part 2 of 2)

(Continued from last issue). Strictly speaking, this is a frivolous indulgence on my part. I used the Internet to double-check and expand upon my childhood memories, though, so it *is* sort of computer related; and it's *fun!* That's important, too. So enjoy!

Part 2a: Elmer Fudd WINS!!!

Wikipedia, The Free Encyclopedia (www.wikipedia .org) contends that there are only three cartoons that end with Elmer Fudd defeating Bugs Bunny. (What's Opera, Doc?, Rabbit Rampage and Hare Brush). I myself count four. Plus I seem to hazily recall a fifth. Unfortunately, I haven't been able to substantiate that vague memory. However, I did track down my fourth, and I'll be presenting an argument for its inclusion further below; but right now, we'll start with the most famous of them all.

What's Opera, Doc? is a 1957 Warner Brothers

cartoon written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. The story features Elmer Fudd (as Siegfried) chasing Bugs Bunny through a parody of 19th-century classical composer Richard Wagner's operas. It ends with Elmer killing Bugs, and then sobbing uncontrollably as he carries Bugs' broken body slowly into the sunset,. However, Bugs gets in the last word, as he "comes back to life" to say "Well, what did you expect in an opera? A happy ending?" before re-collapsing in Elmer's arms. That's victory number one.

Now we'll take a slight digression. In 1994, animation historian Jerry Beck wrote a book titled *The 50 Greatest Cartoons: As Selected by 1,000 Animation Professionals*. Number one on the list is *What's Opera, Doc?* In the number two slot is *Duck Amuck*, a 1953 Daffy Duck cartoon also written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. In it, Daffy is tormented in hilariously sadistic ways by an initially unseen "mad cartoonist", who turns out in the end to be Bugs Bunny. As you might expect from its number two ranking, this is an extremely funny

cartoon; but I've brought it up here only because of the sequel it inspired:

Rabbit Rampage is a 1955 Bugs Bunny cartoon, once again written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. In it, Bugs is similarly harassed by another off-screen animator (revealed at the end to be Elmer Fudd), who says: "Well, anyway, I finally got even with that scwewy wabbit." That's victory number two.

Hare Brush is a 1955 Bugs Bunny cartoon, written by Warren Foster and directed by Isadore "Friz" Freleng. I included it last month in Part 1 of this Appendix because it contains my number one favorite piece of cartoon dialog. Here's what I said then: "This cartoon features a very long set-up, in which Bugs Bunny and Elmer Fudd switch places. My line comes right as the set-up finishes, when Bugs (who now thinks he's Elmer) is being released from the sanitarium. The chauffeur of his limousine says; 'I brought your hunting clothes along, sir. It's Wednesday, you know'. That line is absurd enough in its own right. After all, who picks up a guy from

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the sanitarium, gives him a gun, and sets him loose in the deep woods? However, it's *true* genius lies in its real-world results. At this point, the cartoon is *more* than half finished. Yet with just those eleven words, we're transported out to the woods, where the action is". Now, I have to add some more details:

As Hare Brush starts, Elmer is a millionaire industrialist who has apparently had a breakdown. He thinks that he's a rabbit being chased by hunters. His Board of Directors send him to a sanitarium. There, dressed in a rabbit costume, he uses carrots to entice Bugs Bunny into helping him escape. Bugs says "I'll keep his bed warm for him while he's gone" and settles in. A psychiatrist finds Bugs there, says he's the "worst case I've ever seen" and proceeds to use drugs and hypnosis to "cure" him. After my favorite line has been delivered, Bugs (who thinks he's Elmer) is out in the woods hunting Elmer (still in his rabbit suit). After a few standard but rolereversed encounters, Bugs finally corners Elmer, and says "No wabbit's going to outsmart Elmer J. Fudd". However, a "Special Agent" (dressed as a cliché Hollywood "Fed") arrests Bugs for back taxes; and drags him away, despite his protest of "No, no, no. I'm hunting a scwewy wabbit". Then Elmer gets the last word: "I may be a scwewy wabbit, but I'm not going to Alcatwaz"; and he does a "Bunny Hop" victory dance into the distance as the end credits roll, and you realize that Elmer had planned *everything* all along, right from the very beginning. That's victory number three, and it's a big one.

The Hare-Brained Hypnotist is a 1942 Bugs Bunny cartoon written by Michael Maltese and directed by Isadore "Friz" Freleng. Here's a synopsis: Elmer is out in the woods, reading a book about hypnotism as he walks along, when he bumps into a bear. Using hypnosis, he commands the bear to be a canary, and it flies away. Then Elmer sees Bugs, chases him for a while, and eventually tries to hypnotize him. Instead, Bugs hypnotizes Elmer, and commands him to be a rabbit. So Elmer starts to act like Bugs, with Bugs himself as the victim. In a particularly funny scene, Bugs talks to the audience while chewing on a carrot. Then Elmer, who is hiding right behind him, joins in; and Bugs winds up chewing on three carrots at once, two of which are in Elmer's hands.

After that, Bugs chases Elmer into a hole, and jumps in after him. There, unseen by the audience, they have a hypnosis duel, after which Elmer pops out of the hole and runs away. Then, Bugs looks at his watch, realizes that he's "overdue at the airport", and takes off into the sky, saying "I'm the B-19" as he flies away into the distance. So Elmer *did* defeat Bugs by hypnotizing him; and that *does*, indeed, make this victory number four.

The Hare-Brained Hypnotist was released on October 31, 1942. So for twelve and a half years after that, it remained the only cartoon in which Elmer had ever defeated Bugs, even a little bit. Then, on May 7, 1955, Hare Brush was released. (Rabbit Rampage wasn't released until June 11, 1955, and What's Opera, Doc? wasn't released until July 6, About The Hare-Brained 1957). Hypnotist, Wikipedia says: "This cartoon's plot was re-worked for the 1955 cartoon Hare Brush". I take exception to that statement. The fact that years later someone took a single plot element from one cartoon and used it in another doesn't make that second cartoon a remake. At best, that would make it a sequel. (After all, nobody says that the plot of *Duck Amuck* was reworked for *Rabbit Rampage*. Even though they both feature an on-screen character being bedeviled by an off-screen antagonist, it's obvious to just about everyone that *Rabbit Rampage* is a sequel).

In my opinion, Hare Brush doesn't even qualify as a sequel. Except for the use of hypnosis, there are really **no** close similarities between the two cartoons. True, each has a bear; but the bear in The Hare-Brained Hypnotist is hypnotized into being a canary and flies away, while the bear in Hare Brush chases Bugs until he plays dead, at which point the bear smells him, grimaces in disgust, and buries him. While I've seen most of the "in the woods" encounters between Bugs and Elmer used in other cartoons as well, not one of those encounters from The Hare-Brained Hypnotist was repeated in Hare Brush. Finally, even the use of hypnosis itself is different. In *Hare Brush*, the psychiatrist hypnotizes Bugs into being Elmer. In The Hare-Brained Hypnotist, Bugs himself hypnotizes Elmer into

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being a rabbit.

Just because the devices of hypnosis and identity switching were not used more often is no reason to assume that these two cartoons are connected. After all, they had different writers. Wikipedia also comments that The Hare-Brained Hypnotist's opening music was re-used by three other cartoons. Being copied doesn't in any way diminish the original. Instead, it means that it was so good that four other cartoons drew inspiration from it. I don't understand how this quadruple tribute could somehow become a reason to exclude The Hare-Brained Hypnotist from Elmer's "victory" list. If anything, it should make its position even more secure.

Part 2b: Bugs Gets Married

Bugs Bunny *does* actually get married in *Rabbit of Seville*, a 1950 cartoon that was (surprise) written by Michael Maltese and directed by Chuck Jones. (It's number twelve on the "50 Greatest Cartoons" list). Note that in this cartoon, most of the action is performed in pantomime to the music; and the comparatively sparse dialog is also sung to the

music. (Except at the *very* end). Also note that the cartoon's opening credits list its title as *Rabbit of Seville*, *not The Rabbit of Seville* (as some sources have listed it).

As Rabbit of Seville begins, an orchestra is tuning up in a giant outdoor amphitheater. A sign is displayed. marked: Summer Opera Tonight, The Barber of Seville, with Eduardo Selzeri, Michele Maltese, Carlo Jonzi. Obviously, those last two names are "Italian-ized" versions of the writer and director; but who is that first guy? It's Edward Selzer. the usually uncredited producer of Warner Brothers Cartoons from 1944 to 1957. Unlike his predecessor (Leon Schlesinger), he didn't insist that his name be included on every cartoon, so it wasn't. This time, somebody slipped it in as part of an opening joke (which many viewers probably didn't even notice). In the background, muzzle flashes are seen (and heard), and Bugs Bunny runs through the open door of the Stage Entrance, closely followed by Elmer Fudd. Bugs flips the switch that raises the curtain, and quickly takes the role of the barber, with Elmer being his reluctant customer.

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Once, for a little while, Bugs dresses as a "little señorit-er" and vamps Elmer, but mostly he's the barber. Near the end, Elmer (wielding a hatchet), chases Bugs across the stage. Then Bugs (wielding an ax) chases Elmer back. Then Elmer gets a handgun. Then Bugs gets a rifle. Then Elmer gets a small cannon. Then Bugs gets a bigger cannon. Then Elmer gets a monstrously huge cannon. Then Bugs counters by giving Elmer a bouquet of flowers, a box of candy, and a diamond engagement ring. Then Elmer zips off stage, and zips back on again wearing a white wedding dress. Then some kind of preacher appears and performs a brief ceremony. Then Bugs quickly carries Elmer up long multiple flights of stairs, opens the door of a floorless "honeymoon cottage" at the top, and drops Elmer through it. Then Elmer falls way back down into a giant wedding cake marked "Marriage of Figaro". Then Bugs ends the cartoon by speaking the only line of dialog not set to music: "Eh, next".

Now, Bugs has worn women's clothing and teased Elmer in quite a few cartoons, including What's

Opera, Doc? above; but this is the only time I know of that they ever got married. Bugs did almost get married to Yosemite Sam once, though. Here's a brief explanation: Hare Trimmed is a 1953 cartoon written by Warren Foster and directed by Isadore "Friz" Freleng. In it, Granny inherits fifty million dollars, and Yosemite Sam tries to marry her and swindle her out of it; but Bugs decides to save her. So he fools Sam by dressing up as Granny, and then he suggests that they elope. However, as they're walking down the aisle to get married, the bottom of Bugs' wedding dress gets torn off. After Sam takes a good look at Bugs' tail, he chickens out. What do you know? It was the early fifties, and yet Bugs Bunny was involved in two same-sex (but different species) weddings. My, how times have changed.

Links:

What's Opera, Doc? (1957):

http://www.funnyjunk.com/movies/3182/What/

(This video is from a website that I've never used before, but at least it's all there. I couldn't find a complete and un-messed-with version anywhere on

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YouTube).

Duck Amuck (1953):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cH6i2Z6mTRE

Rabbit Rampage (1955):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ftoprt080PU Hare Brush (1955):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=LCPjrBbCVWU

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The Hare-Brained Hypnotist (1942): http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=n65hHr_odKE Rabbit of Seville (1950):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=55G7T8VdWEs Hare Trimmed (1953):

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xT1c5uZ-LZk

See you next month.

Choosing a Smartphone

Sandy Berger, CompuKISS

(www.compukiss.com) sandy (at) compukiss.com

There are so many different smartphones available today that choosing between them can be difficult. Each phone and each operating system has many different pluses and minuses. So today, I'll give you a brief rundown of what to expect in a smartphone.

Windows Mobile cell phones are just coming of age and they may well be a good choice in the future. However, right now the choice will probably come down to choosing between the Apple iPhone and one of the many Android phones that are now available.

The Android operating system is upgraded several

times a year and new Android phones are released all the time. Apple, however only releases a new iPhone and a big update to their iOS operating system once a year. The new iPhone and iOS updates were released in October 2011. The new Android phones running Gingerbread, the most current Android operating system, were on the market as of November 2011. So today we will talk about Apple and Android, and do a quick comparison of the current phones and operating systems for each.

Since it is so new, I haven't yet been able to review

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Choosing a Smartphone, continued

the new iPhone 4S. However, I have reviewed previous iPhones. I have also installed Apple's new iOS 5 operating system on my iPad, so I have been able to take an in-depth look at most of the new features that will be on the new iPhone. Now I am ready to make my list of the benefits of each.

There is no doubt that that the camera on the new iPhone is superior to almost all the Android phone cameras. The retinoid screen on the iPhone is superior to most Android phones. The exception is the Samsung line of phones with AMOLED screens that rival the clarity and crispness of the iPhone screen.

Apple's new iCloud service will automatically backup your iPhone to Apple's servers and let you sync your iPhone, iPad, and Mac computer. While using iCloud is easier than some of the Android syncing and backup solutions, there were things that I didn't like about iCloud. For instance, you can't actually see your data in the Cloud as you can with solutions like Amazon's or Google's online storage.

One of Apple's biggest features is iTunes and the

iTunes store. iTunes makes getting music and video on your iPhone easier than any Android application that I've seen. At this time, both the Android Marketplace and the iTunes App Store have hundreds of thousands of apps. The iTunes App Store, however, makes it easier to find the apps that you want. Also because of Apple's stricter app reviews, Apple's apps are more secure. However, the Android Marketplace has a higher percentage of free apps.

Some of the new features on Apple new iPhone are already available on Android phones. The most prominent of these is the Notification Center that Apple just added. This is a feature of Android that has been around for a long time and that I love. Now in either operating system, you can just swipe your finger down from the top of the phone to see all of your alerts, notifications, incoming messages, and incoming email.

The most unique feature of the new iPhone is Siri, a personal assistant who will answer verbal questions that you ask. This would, no doubt, be very useful,

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entertaining, and truly state-of-the-art.

Android phones also have voice capabilities. They use Google's Voice Search. Most screens that popup a keypad for text entry, also have a small microphone. Just press the microphone and speak. It is amazingly accurate and you can use it for everything from entering email text to searching to navigating to a point on the map. Probably not as sophisticated as Apple's Siri, but it works well.

My biggest disappointment with the new iPhone is that it is a 3G phone. It does not take advantage of the faster 4G network. Right now the fastest phone for data will be the Android 4G phones that run on a 4G LTE network. If Verizon currently has s 4G LTE network in your area, you may want to consider a 4G Android phone rather than the iPhone 4S.

Android phones also have some things that I love that are not available on iPhones. The first of these is the fact that you can get a larger screen size on an Android. All iPhones currently have a 3.5-inch screen. Several good Android phones have 4.3-inch screens. My aging eyes really like the larger screens.

I also like the four buttons on the bottom of the Android screen. These are very, very useful. There is a Back Key, a Menu Key, a Home Key, and a Search Key. They are always available. They do not change when the screen changes. The iPhone has just one button. Some will argue that this makes the phone easier to use. Yet, this is not always the case. In some applications it is impossible to go back a screen. In others there is an on-screen back button but the location of this button varies with each application. With Android, you can always go back to the previous screen with just one press.

The Android operating system also is more customizable. With Apple, you are restricted to small square apps. With Android you can use many different resizable widgets as well as the standard apps. All of this gives you many different customization options, but also adds to the complexity of the phone. With the iPhone you don't get so many choices. This makes it a bit more restrictive, but also makes it easier to use.

One other difference is that most Android phones

Choosing a Smartphone, continued

have user-replaceable batteries, while an iPhone battery must be replaced by Apple at a greater cost. While this might not be important to the average user it may make a difference to a heavy-duty user.

Well, there are just a few of the pluses and minuses you will have to assess when you buy a new smartphone. Don't worry though; it is hard to make a bad decision as almost all the smartphones on the market today are both capable and useful.

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Whose Kids Are You Anyway?

Bill Ellis, member, Computer Users of Erie, PA
Newsletter: Horizons (www.cuerie.com) cuerie1 (at) verizon.net

At one of our genealogy SIG meetings, we discussed how to add children to a marriage, so a descendant report, family tree or a lineage chart came out right. If the kids are linked to anyone other than their birth parents, you will see several marriages having the same kids. This will make the reports and charts inaccurate and quite confusing. If we lived in a society that would accept a husband having many wives, or, if we could trace your roots back to the cave dwellers, then none of what I'm about to say would be of any value because we could just lump everyone together into one big happy family. But,

that's not to be.

I will use my family tree in an effort to explain how to link children to a family unit when there is more than one marriage, since both of my parents remarried and created another family with their new spouses. Multiple marriages will create stepparents and stepchildren even if you don't know who they are. You can have a stepmother, or stepfather, somewhere that you don't know anything about. You can even a have stepsisters and/or stepbrothers.

My parents, Willard and Romaine, had my sister and me. I am the youngest, in the family, and my father

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left us shortly after I was born. My mother raised us, for many years, as a single parent until she met and married Elmer Degner. Now, my sister and I had a father and a stepfather. In the family history, my sister and I are only linked to our mother and father.

We are not linked to my mother and her second husband, our stepfather. If we were linked to the second marriage, a family tree would show us as having two sets of parents. This would be very confusing. It will get even more confusing, because my father also remarried. Now, my sister and I have a father, a mother, a stepfather and a stepmother. We also have a stepsister and a couple of stepbrothers. Wow!

This family unit is growing faster than the national debt. I've called this a family unit because that is what we are. Biologically and through marriages we have become one family.

Now, let's try to keep all these people straight.

As I said, my mother remarried. She and her second husband, Elmer, had a daughter and they named her Sandra. She is the biological off spring of my mother and her second husband.

Even though my mother's new husband is a stepfather to my sister and me, we are not linked to this union.

Their daughter, Sandra is the only child that can actually be linked to them. My sister and I can only be linked to my mother and her first husband. Now when you generate a descendants report, or chart, the kids will be shown with the proper parents and the descendants report will be accurate. My sister and I will be shown as the kids of Romaine and Willard Ellis and Sandra will be shown as a kid of Romaine and Elmer Degner. However, my mother is now the biological parent of three children. We can see all of her children in each of her marriages, by using the "View ½ kids" feature in Legacy.

The only time you should see the same kids linked to two different sets of parents is through adoption, which I'll cover later in this article.

Now, let's go to the family view of the Legacy program and look for this view ½ kids feature of Legacy. Legacy does not use the term "Step kids". It

Whose Kids Are You Anyway? continued

uses the term "1/2 Kids". If you've linked the kids correctly, as previously instructed, then go to a couple that has married more than once and has children by each marriage. If you have linked kids correctly, you will only see the kid, or kids, for that marriage. As you bounce from marriage to marriage, the kid(s) in the child view screen change with each marriage. If you see kids that are not off springs of both parents, you will have to unlink the ones that don't belong. You can do this by right clicking on the kid that doesn't belong and clicking on the unlink selection at the bottom of the pop up window. You will need to do these for each kid that does not belong to that married couple.

Once the kids are properly linked to their biological parents we need to turn on the "View ½ kids" feature to see all the kids that were born through all of these marriages. Right click on one of the kid's names and in the screen that pops up, go to view and click on "Show ½ kids." Now you will see all the kids from all the marriages. The ones that are stepchildren of that marriage will have ½ in front of the name. The

one(s) that belong will not.

Again, as you bounce from marriage to marriage, the ½ kid designation will change to different kids. Bounce through your marriages and give it a try.

Moving forward, my father's second wife, Gladyce, had been married before and she had two sons with her first husband. They were William and Earl Shaffer and they are linked to Gladyce and her first husband. When my father married Gladyce, he adopted her two boys and changed their surname from Shaffer to Ellis. Because of this adoption, the two boys are now linked to two sets of parents. Their biological father and mother and their adopted father and biological mother. Therefore, they will show up twice in a descendants report or chart. They will be listed once with the Shaffer marriage and once with the Ellis marriage. This is okay, because as sons of the Shaffer family, their surname is Shaffer. Under the Ellis family, their surname is Ellis. Legacy allows you to do this by using the alternate name provision in the program. The AKA, alternate name, feature of Legacy is a topic for discussion at another

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time. Now, back to our family unit. Since the Shaffer boys were adopted at an early age, everything that they have done through much of their lives, such as high school graduations, college degrees, marriages, etc. have been done using the Ellis surname. Therefore, researching these events using the surname of Shaffer would be fruitless. This is one of the many reasons for using the AKA feature.

I hope this scenario has helped to clear up linking kids in a multiple marriage situation. Just remember to link the kids to their biological parents, even if you don't know who they are. If a child is adopted through an adoption agency and you don't know

whom the child's parents are, link that child to an unknown set of parents. Now, link the child to its adopted parents. This will keep your family tree and charts in order. How to link a child to unknown parents is left up to the genealogist. Each genealogist will enter this data differently.

The world of genealogy does not set a standard for entering unknown people into your family history. That data entry decision is left up to you.

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Windows Live Photo Gallery - The Seventh Son of Windows

Lee Reynolds, Member, Boca Raton Computer Society, FL
Newsletter: Boca Bits (www.brcs.org) leetutor (at) exploringwindows.com

Introduction

For Windows 7, Microsoft has stopped furnishing the Windows Photo Gallery that was built into Windows Vista, and instead made a version of the program available from the Windows Live site. Windows Live Photo Gallery can also be installed in Windows Vista and Windows XP. By removing this component from the operating system, it is to be hoped that Microsoft will be able to provide updates and improvements in a much more timely manner.

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Windows Live Photo Gallery, continued

Download

You can download the latest version of Windows Live Photo Gallery from here:

http://www.windowslive.com/Desktop/PhotoGallery

About Windows Live Photo Gallery

With Windows Live Photo Gallery, you can manage all your photos, search for them, import them from a camera or other removable media, order prints online, and publish them (upload to Windows Live Spaces, Flickr).

When you import photos, they are automatically grouped by date and time. You can edit them to fix redeye, crop out unwanted sections, correct colors, and adjust the lighting, sharpness, etc. Any edit you make to your photos can be reverted later at any time.

You can stitch several photos together to offer a "panoramic" view. You can also apply a treatment to color photos to convert them to black and white and

shades of gray.

The list of capabilities of the program goes on and on.

For example, you can send photos by e-mail, burn them to a CD, and print them.

You can add tags, ratings, and captions. Since Live Photo Gallery has the ability to automatically recognize faces, you can tag them with the names of the people in the photos and therefore be able to search by the people in your photos.

You can resize, rotate, delete and rename the photos.

There is QuickTime movie support if you have QuickTime 7 or later installed.

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This and That or Things that May Interest You

Lynn Page, Editor / Webmaster, Crystal River Users Group, FL Newsletter: CRUG Newsletter (www.crug.com) editor (at) crug.com

Protect Your Word Files

In Word 2007 click the Office button and select Prepare and Encrypt Document. Enter and verify a password in the dialog box. In Word 2010 select Info on the File tab. Click Protect Document and then Encrypt with Password. Enter and confirm the password. Be sure to remember any passwords you use.

Windows 7

Optimize Your Display

Windows 7 has tools for optimizing an LCD. Click the Start button, type display in the search field and press Enter.

Click the Calibrate Color link to start a wizard that helps adjust gamma, brightness, and contrast for the LCD.

The Display options also contain Adjust ClearType Text. This wizard helps adjust the font smoothing effects and text readability on the screen.

Calculator

Windows 7 calculator is deceivingly powerful. It looks a simple calculator, but look at the View drop down menu to see Scientific, Statistics and Program-

mer views. It even has different unit conversions, date calculations, and spreadsheet-type templates for various tasks. So the new Calculator can perform simple calculations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division but also offers the advanced capabilities of a programming, scientific, and statistical calculator.

Magnifier

Magnifier enlarges and is part of the Ease of Access Center. To open, click Start, and then type Magnifier in the Search box. It has three magnifying modes. Full-screen mode magnifies the entire screen. But you might not be able to see the entire screen at one time. With Lens mode the area around the mouse pointer is magnified. Moving the mouse moves the area of the screen that's magnified. In Docked mode a portion of the screen is magnified and the rest of the desktop unchanged. You can define a scale factor and docking position.

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SIG News

LUNICS (Linux/Unix)

Andreas Meyer (lunics@acgnj.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/lunics.html

LUNICS is a group for those who share an interest in Unix and similar operating systems. While we do quite a bit with Linux, we've also been known to discuss Solaris and BSD as well. Recent meetings have followed a Random Access format. See our web page for further information. (We meet on the first Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Main Meeting

Evan Williams (president@acgnj.org) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/mainmeet.html

We meet on the first Friday of the month, at 8:00 PM. Each December, this meeting includes our Annual Business Meeting and Officer Elections. *No* meetings in July or August.

Layman's Forum

Matt Skoda (som359@aol.com) http://www.acgnj.org/groups/laymans.html

This SIG discusses issues of interest to novice users or those planning to get started in computing. Watch our Web page for updates and announcements. We meet at the same time as the Hardware Workshop. (On the second Monday of the month, at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July and August.

Hardware Workshop

Mike Reagan (hardware@acgnj.org)

This group is dedicated to repairing, refurbishing and/or recycling older computers. Ten people attended the first meeting, so there is still a market for this type of event. Although we looked at some of the older equipment stored in he back room, most of our time was spent in talking about ast experiences and planning for the future. Hopefully, we can establish a viable long-term schedule of projects, and keep the interest of those who attended this inaugural meeting. If you have a hardware problem, bring it in and we can all help fix or demolish it. (No guarantees either way.) We meet at the same time as the Layman's Forum. (On the second Monday of each month, at 8:00 PM).

Java

Mike Redlich (mike@redlich.net) http://www.redlich.net/javasig/javasig.html

This SIG covers beginner, intermediate, and advanced level Java programming. Primary focus is on developing useful/practical applets and applications. (We meet on the second Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). □

Mobile Devices

Brenda Bell (mobdevsig@acgnj.org)

The Mobile Devices SIG focuses largely on currentgeneration cellphones and smart phones (such as Blackberry, Android, iPhone) which bridge the gap between basic cell phones and traditional computers, and how they can help you manage and organize your life. Our membership ranges from those who have recently acquired their first, basic cellphone to those who develop applications for today's modern smart phones, iPods, and ultra-portable computers. While we expect to spend much of our time investigating the built-in features and specialized applications available to modern smart phones, if you bring your basic (or multimedia) cell phone, iPod, or other mobile device with questions on how to use it, where to find applications, or what features they have, we are always happy to help! Meet and greet and plan where this event goes. Bring all your ideas, PDAs, fancy phones, etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the even ones), at 7:30PM). \square

WebDev

Evan Williams (webdev@acgnj.org)

This SIG is an open forum for all Website Development techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All languages will be considered and examined. The current project is a CMS for the club. Anyone interested in starting a new project, come to the meeting and announce/explain. Provide as much detail as possible. WebDev should be an all-encompasing development and examination forum for all issues, applications, OS, languages and systems one can use to build Websites. We currently

have two web development language SIGs: .NET and Java; but other languages and OS need to be investigated, examined and tested; Windows, Linux, UNIX, DEC, Vax, HP etc. Intel-PC, Motorola - MAC etc. (We meet on the second Wednesday of alternate months (we get the odd ones), at 7:30 PM).

Investment Software

Jim Cooper (jim@thecoopers.org)

http://www.acgnj.org/groups/sig_investment.html

The Investment SIG continues with presentations on how to use analysis programs TC2000 and TCNet. Large charts are presented on our pull down screen and illustrate the application of computer scans and formulas to find stocks for profitable investments. Technical analysis determines buy points, sell points and projected moves. Technical analysis can also be used on fundamentals such as earnings, sales growth, etc. We're no longer focusing on just Telechart. If you are using (or interested in) Tradestation, eSignal, VectorVest, or just in learning how to select and use charting and technical analysis, come join us!! (We meet on the second Thursday of the month, at 8 PM).

NJ Gamers

Gregg McCarthy (greggmajestic@gmail.com)

http://www.NJGamers.com

www.lanparty.com

The Friday Night Frag starts at 6:00 PM on the second Friday of each month, and keeps going until 12 Noon on Saturday - 18 hours for 5 bucks!

BYOC - Bring your own computer.

BYOF - Bring your own food.

And if you don't like sitting on metal folding chairs... BYO chair!

Firefox

David McRitchie (firefox@acgnj.org).

This SIG is an open forum for all Firefox and Mozilla techniques and technologies, to encourage study and development of web sites of all kinds. All browsers will be considered and examined. All members and guests are invited to check out the design concepts and voice their opinion. (We meet on the third Monday of each month, at 7:30 PM).

C/C++ Programming

Bruce Arnold (barnold@ieee.org) http://acgnj.barnold.us/index.html

This is a forum for discussion of programming in general, beginning and intermediate level C, C++, C-Win programming, hardware, algorithms, and operating systems. We demonstrate real programming in a non-intimidating way, presenting complete code for working programs in 3-5 sheets of paper. (We meet on the third Tuesday of each month, at 7:30 PM). *No* meetings in July or August.

Window Pains

John Raff (jraff@comcast.net)
http://www.acgnj.org/groups/winpains.html

Intended to provide members with Windows oriented discussions, Microsoft and Linux style. Directed to more technological level of attendee, but newbies are welcomed. (We meet on the third Friday of the month at 8:00 PM). *No* meetings in July or August.

37th Anniversary Newsletter CD Now On Sale



Beta .12 Release.

\$8.00, including postage.

(\$7.00 if you pick up a copy at a meeting).

Get yours today!

Back Issues Still Needed

Our collection remains incomplete. Below is a list of missing newsletters. Anyone who lends us one of these (or supplies a good clear copy) will receive the next CD as our thanks.

1975: #2 and #3 (dates uncertain).

1976: January.

1984: August.

1985: June, July, August, September.

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Guru Corner

If you need help with any of the technologies listed below, you can call on the person listed. Please be considerate and call before 10 PM.

Software					
HTML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410			
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385			
ColdFusion	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385			
CSS	Frank Warren	908-756-1681			
	Jo-Anne Head	908-769-7385			
Java	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410			
C++	Bruce Arnold	908-735-7898			
	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410			
ASP	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410			
Perl	John Raff	973-560-9070			
	Frank Warren	908-756-1681			
XML	Mike Redlich	908-246-0410			
Genealogy	Frank Warren	908-756-1681			
Home Automation	Frank Warren	908-756-1681			
	Operating Systems				
Windows 3.1	Ted Martin	732-636-1942			

Discount Computer Magazine Price List As described by the DealsGuy

	1 yr	2 yr	3 yr
Computer Games	\$10.95	20.95	29.95
Computer Gaming World	14.95	28.95	41.95
Computer Shopper1	16.97	32.95	47.95
Dr. Dobbs Journal	15.95	30.95	
Mac Addict	10.97		
Mac Home Journal	15.97	29.97	
Mac World	12.95		
Maximum PC	9.95	18.95	27.95
Microsoft System Journal	21.95	39.95	
PC Gamer	12.95		
PC Magazine (22/44/66 Issues)	25.97	48.95	68.95
PC World	16.95		
Wired	6.00	12.00	17.00

These prices are for new subscriptions and renewals. All orders must be accompanied by a check, cash or Money Order. Make payable to Herb Goodman, and mail to:

Herb Goodman, 8295 Sunlake Drive, Boca Raton, FL 33496

Telephone: 561-488-4465, e-mail: hgoodman@prodigy.net

Please allow 10 to 12 weeks for your magazines to start. For renewals you must supply an address label from your present subscription to insure the correct start of your renewal. As an extra service I will mail a renewal notice about 4 months prior to their expiration date. I carry more than 300 titles at excellent prices — email for prices.

ACGNJ MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Sign up online at www.acgnj.org/membershipApplication.html and pay dues with PayPal.

1		Dues			
	US/CANADA			STUDENT	SENIOR CITIZEN
1 Year	\$25			\$20	(Over 65) \$20
2 Years	\$40				
3 Years	\$55				\$45
	plication and your R COMPUTER GR	check to: OUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC.	P.0. BOX 135, S	SCOTCH PI	_AINS, NJ 0707
		OUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC.	P.0, BOX 135, S		AINS, NJ 0707
AMATEU		OUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC.		L	_AINS, NJ 0707
	R COMPUTER GR	OUP OF NEW JERSEY, INC.		Р	

Other Local Computer Groups				
Princeton Macintosh User Group: 7:15 pm 2nd Tuesday, Jadwin Hall, A-10, Washington Rd, Princeton, (609) 252-1163, www.pmug-nj.org	Linux Users Group in Princeton: 7 pm, 2nd Wednesday, Lawrence Branch Mercer Library, Rt#1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrence NJ http://www.lugip.org	New York PC: 3rd Thurs, 7 pm, PS 41, 116 W 11th St. For info call hotline, (212) 533-NYPC, http://www.nypc.org		
Computer Education Society of Philadelphia: Meetings & Workshops at Jem Electronics, 6622 Castor Ave, Philadelphia PA. www.cesop.org/	Brookdale Computer Users Group: 7 pm, 3rd Friday, Brookdale Community College, Bldg MAS Rm 100, Lincroft NJ. (732)-739-9633. www.bcug.com	NJ Macintosh User Group: 8 pm, 3rd Tuesday, Allwood Branch Library, Lyall Rd, Clifton NJ. (201) 893-5274 http://www.njmug.org.		
PC User Group of So. Jersey: 2nd Mon., 7 pm, Trinity Presb. Church, 499 Rt 70 E, Cherry Hill, NJ. L. Horn, (856) 983-5360	Hunterdon Computer Club: 8:30 am, 3rd Sat, Hunterdon Medical Center, Rt 31, Flemington NJ. www.hunterdoncomputerclub.org, (908) 995-4042.	NY Amateur Computer Group: 2nd Thurs, 7 pm, Rm 806 Silver Bldg, NYU, 32 Waverly Pl, NYC. http://www.nyacc.org		
Morris Micro Computer Club: 7 pm 2nd Thurs., Morris County Library, Hanover Ave, Morristown NJ, (973) 267-0871. http://www.morrismicro.com	Central Jersey Computer Club: 8 pm, 4th Friday, Rm 74, Armstrong Hall, College of NJ. Rich Williams, (609) 466-0909.	NJ PC User Group: 2nd Thurs, Monroe Rm at Wyckoff Public Library, 7 pm. Maureen Shannon, (201) 853-7432, www.njpcug.org		
Philadelphia Area Computer Society: 3rd Sat, 12 noon Main Meeting, groups 8 am-3 pm. Upper Moreland Middle School, Hatboro PA. (215) 764-6338. www.pacsnet.org	NJ Computer Club: 6:15 pm, 2nd Wednesday except Jul & Aug, North Branch Reformed Church, 203 Rt 28, Bridgewater NJ. http://www.njcc.org	Princeton PC Users Group: 2nd Monday, Lawrenceville Library, Alt Rt 1 & Darrah Lane, Lawrenceville, Paul Kurivchack (908) 218-0778, http://www.ppcug-nj.org		

Classified

FREE TO MEMBERS. Use our classified ads to sell off your surplus computer stuff. Send copy to Classified, ACGNJ NEWS, P.O. Box 135, Scotch Plains NJ 07076 or e-mail to the editor, bdegroot@ptd.net. Classified ads are free to members, one per issue. Non-members pay \$10. Send check payable to ACGNJ

Inc. with copy. Reasonable length, please.

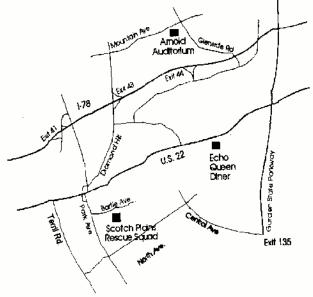
Radio and TV Programs

Computer Radio Show, WBAI 99.5 FM, NY, Wed. 8-9 p.m.

Review, The Channel, Saturday Software Learning 10-10:30 p.m.

On Computers, WCTC 1450 AM, New Brunswick, Sunday 1-4 p.m. To ask questions call (800) 677-0874.

PC Talk, Sunday from 8 p.m. to The Association of 10 p.m., 1210 AM Philadelphia.



Member of Personal Computer User Groups 1-800-876-WPEN http://www.apcug.net

Directions to Meetings at Scotch Plains Rescue Squad, 1916 Bartle Ave., Scotch Plains NJ

From New York City or Northern New Jersey

Take Route 1&9 or the Garden State Parkway to US 22 Westbound.

From Southern New Jersey

Take Parkway north to Exit 135 (Clark). Stay on left of ramp, follow circle under Parkway. Bear right to Central Avenue; follow to Westfield and under RR overpass. Left at light to North Avenue; follow to light in Fanwood. Right on Martine (which becomes Park Ave). Right on Bartle Ave in middle of shopping district.Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is located on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed.

From I-78 (either direction)

Take exit 41 (Scotch Plains); follow signs to US 22. Turn right at light at bottom of hill and use overpass to cross Rt. 22. Follow US 22 Westbound directions.

From US 22 Westbound

Exit at Park Avenue, Scotch Plains after McDonalds on the right, diagonally opposite Scotchwood Diner on the left, immediately before the overpass. After exiting, turn left at the light and use overpass to cross US 22. Bear right at bottom of ramp to continue south on Park Avenue. Turn left at the second light (a staggered intersection). Scotch Plains Rescue Squad (2-story brick) is on the right. Do not park in the row next to the building — you'll be towed. We meet on the second floor, entering by the door at the right front of the building.

From Western New Jersey

Take US 22 Eastbound to the Park Avenue exit. The exit is about a mile past Terrill Road and immediately past the overpass. Exit onto Park Avenue South and follow the directions above to the Rescue Squad building.